



# HOUSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

## PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

### MEDIA ALERT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
August 21, 2007

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## Firefighters to Canvass Area of Most Fatal Fires

**WHAT:** Houston Firefighters will canvass southeast Houston which has historically had the most fatal fires in the City of Houston.

**WHEN:** Wednesday, August 22, 2007 starting at 8:30 a.m.

**WHERE:** Firefighters will start at Telephone all the way to Gillen and Chaffin (4 blocks). They will also canvass Kinney and Mc Henry from Telephone to Chaffin. (Key Map 534R)

**DETAILS:** In an effort to prevent tragedies, the Houston Fire Department will be talking with neighbors and distributing safety literature, smoke alarms and batteries.

Working smoke alarms give residents the few extra minutes they need to escape a fire. The National Fire Protection Association reports that although more than 90 percent of homes have smoke alarms, nearly half of all homes don't have a working alarm. The NFPA also reports that 65 percent of reported home fire deaths in 2000-2004 resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

Looking at statistics for the City of Houston in 2006 - 2007, 50 percent of the fatal fires have occurred in southeast Houston.

Recent fatal fires in Southeast Houston:

- March 2, 2007 - Garage at 2502 Cumberland, one adult female died.
- May 24, 2007 - Multi-family unit at 8132 Lynn, one child died.
- June 21-22, 2007 - Garage at 310 Everton, two adults died.
- August 16, 2007 - Multi-family unit at 4657 Alvin, one child and one adult died.